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APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE		ING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/923,071 08/06/2001		8/06/2001	Michael J. Sullivan	174-956	1486
23517	7590	10/01/2002			
		SHEREFF FRIE	EXAMINER		
3000 K STRE BOX IP	ET, NW		GORDON, RAEANN		
WASHINGTO	N, DC	20007			
				ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
				3711	
			DATE MAILED: 10/01/2002		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application No. Applicant(s) Delivery		_	Application No.	A wall to a radia				
## Examiner Rasen Gorden 3711 ## MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address ## Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Established of tensing the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(s). In or event, however, may a reply be timely filed ## Provided for only specified above, the readment the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(s). In or event, however, may a reply be timely filed ## Provided for only specified above, the readment action prefixed will apply and vite apply SX (6) MoNTHS from the mailing date of this communication, event if timely filed ## Provided for reply is pecified above, the readment action prefixed will apply and vite apply SX (6) MoNTHS from the mailing date of this communication, event if timely filed. may reduce any counted platent learn eligibility of the provision of the communication, event if timely filed. The prefixed any counted platent learn eligibility of the subject of the communication, event if timely filed. The prefixed any counted platent learn eligibility of the communication of the communication, event if timely filed. The prefixed any counted platent learn eligibility of the communication of the communication. ### Provided Provided State of the Communication of the Communication of the communication. ### Provided Provi			Application No.					
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Application/Control Number: 09/923,071

Art Unit: 3711

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-17, drawn to a golf ball, classified in class 473, subclass 374.
- II. Claims 18-22, drawn to a method, classified in class 156, subclass 146.

 The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I and II are related as process of making and product made. The inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP § 806.05(f)). In the instant case the golf ball can be made using a different process, such as injection molding.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

During a telephone conversation with John Mulgrew on September 19, 2002 a provisional election was made without traverse to prosecute the invention of Group I, claims 1-17. Affirmation of this election must be made by applicant in replying to this Office action. Claims 18-22 are withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner, 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimosaka et al (5,730,665) in view of Bandlish (4,847,319). Regarding claims 1, 10, 11, and 14, Shimosaka discloses a golf ball comprising a core, an intermediate layer, and a cover. The intermediate layer is formed from a single or plural layers of a laminate film. In regards to claims 2-8, Shimosaka discloses the film may be made from polyurethane, silicone, or epoxy (col 3, lines 55-62). Regarding claim 9, the composition also includes a curing agent. Regarding claims 12 and 13, the film has a thickness from 50 to 400 um or 0.05 to 0.4 mm (col 3, line 64). Shimosaka does not disclose details regarding the composition of the film. Bandlish teaches a polyurethane coating composition comprising a blocked isocyanate, a ketone or aldehyde, and various additives and/or fillers. One skilled in the art would have modified the invention of Shimosaka to improve the durability of the film.

Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Shimosaka et al (5,730,665) in view of Bandlish (4,847,319) as applied to claims 1-14

above, and further in view of Shimosaka (5,749,796). Shimosaka '665 in view of

Bandlish discloses the invention as shown above but does not disclose a wound

intermediate layer. Shimosaka '796 teaches a golf ball comprising a resin film layer and

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a wound intermediate layer. One skilled in the art would have included a wound intermediate layer to achieve the properties such as spin, flying distance, and durability, which are common in wound golf balls.

Claims 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimosaka et al (5,730,665) in view of Bandlish (4,847,319) as applied to claims 1-14 above, and further in view of Renard (6,068,561). Shimosaka '665 in view of Bandlish discloses the invention as shown above but does not disclose the film layer as part of the core or core shell. Renard teaches thin layers surrounding the core layer (Fig 5). One skilled in the art-would have included the thin or film layers around the core to improve the durability of the core layer.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Raeann Gorden whose telephone number is 703-308-8354. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paul Sewell can be reached on 703-308-2126. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-3579 for regular communications and 703-308-3579 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1148.

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Steven Wong Primary Examiner

rg September 24, 2002